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July 2, 2008

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Commissioner for Patents PO Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 Art Unit 4161

Mail Stop Amendment

Re: U.S. Utility Patent Application

Application No. 10/578,900; Filed: March 8, 2007

For: 2-Ethyl-4,6-dimethyl-phenyl-substituted Spirocyclic Tetramic Acid Derivatives

Inventors: FISCHER et al.

Our Ref: 2400.0410000/VLC/BAH

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for appropriate action is the following document:

1. Reply to Restriction Requirement.

The above-listed document is filed electronically through EFS-Web.

In the event that extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned.

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.

Vincent L. Capuano Attorney for Applicants Registration No. 42,385

VLC/BAH/dac 841199_1.DOC Enclosures